

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAJ-01 IO-10 OMB-01 /069 W

----- 044944

R 090720Z OCT 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7424

INFM CUMJPG/USLO PEKING 6122

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

FBIS OKINAWA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJ: YUNNAN FIRST SECRETARY DIES, REPLACED BY CULTURAL REVOLUTION
REHABILITEE

REF: HONG KONG 10301

1. CHOU HSING, YUNNAN PROVINCE PARTY FIRST SECRETARY, DIED
LAST WEEK IN PEKING AT THE AGE OF 70 AND HAS BEEN REPLACED
BY CHIA CHI-YUN (6328/0796/0336), FORMER FIRST SECRETARY IN
KWEICHOW WHO WAS BITTERLY ATTACKED AND DEPOSED DURING THE CUL-
TURAL REVOLUTION (NCNA OCTOBER 8). CHIA FIRST REAPPEARED
ONLY LAST WEEK, AT THE NATIONAL DAY BANQUET. ACCORDING TO
NCNA, HE ATTENDED THE CHOU HSING FUNERAL AND DELIVERED THE
MEMORIAL SPEECH IN HIS CAPACITY AS NEWLY APPOINTED PARTY
FIRST SECRETARY AND REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN. HE
PRESUMABLY SUCCEEDS AS WELL TO CHOU'S TITLES AS POLITICAL COMMISSAR
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OF THE KUNMING MILITARY REGION AND FIRST POLITICAL COMMISSAR OF

THE YUNNAN MILITARY DISTRICT.

2. THE FUNERAL WITNESSED AN IMPRESSIVE TURNOUT OF CHINA'S LEADERSHIP, HEADED BY TENG HSIAO-PING AND CHANG CHUN-CHIAO. WREATHS WERE SENT BY CHAIRMAN MAO AND ALL PARTY VICE-CHAIRMAN. WANG HUNG-WEN, WHO IS APPARENTLY STILL IN SHANGHAI, RETAINS HIS RANKING AS PARTY NUMBER THREE.

3. CHIA CHI-YUN SERVED AS A SZECHUAN CADRE IN THE EARLY 1950'S BEFORE HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE STATE STATISTICAL BUREAU, FIRST AS VICE CHAIRMAN AND THEN (1959-1961) AS CHAIRMAN.. HE THEN SERVED AGAIN IN SZECHUAN UNTIL HIS APPOINTMENT IN 1965 AS FIRST SECRETARY OF KWEICHOW PROVINCE. HE SUFFERED BITTER ATTACKS DURING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION AS A PROTEGE OF SOUTHWEST BUREAU CHIEF LI CHING-CHUAN, (CURRENTLY NPC VICE-CHAIRMAN) AND WAS DRAGGED OUT AND PUBLICLY HUMILIATED ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS IN 1967-68.

COMMENT: CHIA'S APPOINTMENT IS UNUSUAL IN THAT HE IS THE FIRST NON-CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER TO BE APPOINTED A PROVINCIAL FIRST SECRETARY. HIS RAPID APPOINTMENT, DESPITE HIS DIFFICULTIES IN THE 1960'S, IS IMPRESSIVE EVIDENCE OF THE REGIME'S INTENTION TO CONTINUE TO PLACE CULTURAL REVOLUTION PURGEES IN HIGH POSITIONS.
CROSS

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: PINT, CH, (CHOU HSING), (CHIA CHI-YUN)
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